

AUTHORIZING AN INTERPRETIVE CENTER NEAR DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE, CALIFORNIA

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4187) to assist in the establishment of an interpretive center and museum in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Lake in southern California to ensure the protection and interpretation of the paleontology discoveries made at the lake and to develop a trail system for the lake for use by pedestrians and nonmotorized vehicles.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4187

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. INTERPRETIVE CENTER AND MUSEUM, DIAMOND VALLEY LAKE, HEMET, CALIFORNIA.

(a) ASSISTANCE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER AND MUSEUM.—The Secretary of the Interior shall enter into an agreement with an appropriate entity for the purpose of sharing costs incurred to design, construct, furnish, and operate an interpretive center and museum, to be located on lands under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, intended to preserve, display, and interpret the paleontology discoveries made at and in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Lake, near Hemet, California, and to promote other historical and cultural resources of the area.

(b) ASSISTANCE FOR NONMOTORIZED TRAILS.—The Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the State of California, a political subdivision of the State, or a combination of State and local public agencies for the purpose of sharing costs incurred to design, construct, and maintain a system of trails around the perimeter of the Diamond Valley Lake for use by pedestrians and nonmotorized vehicles.

(c) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall require the other parties to an agreement under this section to secure an amount of funds from non-Federal sources that is at least equal to the amount provided by the Secretary.

(d) TIME FOR AGREEMENT.—The Secretary shall enter into the agreements required by this section not later than 180 days after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated not more than \$14,000,000 to carry out this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have introduced H.R. 4187, along with the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. BONO), the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD), the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO), the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), the gentleman from California (Mr.

GARY MILLER), the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), and the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

Madam Speaker, this legislation will assist in establishing the Western Archeology and Paleontology Center in the vicinity of Diamond Valley Lake in Southern California. This center will preserve, protect and make available the extraordinary discoveries that were uncovered during the construction of Diamond Valley Lake to all citizens of the United States. The University of California, Riverside, has been instrumental in developing this center; and I look forward to their continued leadership in the establishment and operation of the center. House report language calls for the Secretary of Interior to work with UCR, metropolitan water districts, and local shareholders in this effort.

During the past 10 years, the construction of Diamond Valley Lake outside of Hemet, California, has been the largest private earth-moving construction project in the United States. The reservoir is now the largest man-made lake in Southern California. It covers 4,500 acres, is 4½ miles long, 2 miles wide, and 250 feet deep. The cost of this was \$2.1 million for construction, was totally borne by the residents of Southern California. The reservoir will provide a desperately needed emergency supply of water for the City of Los Angeles and the surrounding area.

During the construction and excavation of this massive project, extraordinary paleontology and archeology discoveries were uncovered. Unearthed were 365 prehistoric sites, pictographs, stone tools, bone tools and arrowheads. Also discovered were a preserved mastodon skeleton, a mammoth skeleton, a 7-foot tusk and bones from the extinct animals previously unknown to have resided in the area, including the giant long-horned bison and an enormous North American Lion.

The construction of Diamond Valley Lake unearthed the largest known accumulation of late Ice Age fossils known in California. The scientific importance of this collection may now rival California's other famed site, the La Brea Tar Pits.

The State of California is an active participant in this endeavor, having already contributed \$6 million to the Western Center. Another \$10.5 million has been included in this year's State budget for construction and maintenance of the center.

As for the Federal Government's role in this endeavor, first, 12,000 acres of land totaling about \$40 million, have been bought and set aside by the Metropolitan Water District to comply with the Endangered Species Act, a Federal requirement.

Moreover, there is legislative precedent for Federal assistance to States for preservation. The National Historic Preservation Act set the stage for Fed-

eral, State and local partnerships. This act provides that the Federal government shall contribute to the preservation of non-federally owned prehistoric and historic resources and give maximum encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means.

In addition, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Defense, the Department of Interior, and the Department of Agriculture have uncovered prehistoric and historic artifacts and are being forced to store these artifacts and records in storage units, offices, basements or in substandard museums, which is unacceptable. I am pleased that we can use this unique opportunity to work together in a partnership with local, State and Federal interests to protect and preserve these assets for all Americans.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from Utah (Chairman HANSEN) for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 4187 authorizes the Federal Government to pay up to one-quarter of the cost of a \$40 million visitors facility to be constructed as part of a vast recreational complex being developed around a new locally owned water project in California. The complex is reported to include golf courses, restaurants, and concert areas centered around this new reservoir.

While we of the minority do not intend to oppose this legislation, H.R. 4187 does raise some serious concerns. The bill authorizes this Federal expenditure, despite the fact that there is no substantive Federal connection to this project. None of the facilities, nor any of the land, are federally owned or operated.

We are told that during the construction, important archeological artifacts were discovered and therefore the Federal Government should pay for a visitors center. However, if these artifacts are truly important, funding for them is available through existing grant programs, and earmarked funding for a visitors center is therefore unnecessary.

I guess I should point out that there is a certain irony that some on the majority side are asking for Federal funding for this. But it has been argued also that because the local water district was required to set aside a nature preserve as a species mitigation measure, the use of Federal funds for this visitors center is justified. However, the set-aside was required by law and does not entitle this project to a taxpayer-funded visitors center.

In the view of the minority members of the Committee on Resources, Congress should allocate Federal resources to address the multibillion dollar

maintenance and construction backlogs on Federal lands, and non-Federal projects such as this one should receive the bulk of their funding from the States and localities who own and operate them.

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While the minority will not oppose H.R. 4187, we would caution against similar authorization in cases with such limited Federal interests.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4187.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NEED FOR WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ON THE MALL

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 145) expressing the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 145

Whereas World War II is the defining event of the twentieth century for the United States and its wartime allies;

Whereas in World War II, more than 16,000,000 American men and women served in uniform in the Armed Forces, more than 400,000 of them gave their lives, and more than 670,000 of them were wounded;

Whereas many millions more on the home front in the United States organized and sacrificed to give unwavering support to those in uniform;

Whereas fewer than 6,000,000 World War II veterans are surviving at the end of the twentieth century, and the Nation mourns the passing of more than 1,200 veterans each day;

Whereas Congress, in Public Law 103-422 (108 Stat. 4356) enacted in 1994, approved the location of a memorial to this epic era in an area of the National Mall that includes the Rainbow Pool;

Whereas since 1995, the National World War II Memorial site and design have been the subject of 19 public hearings that have resulted in an endorsement from the State Historic Preservation Officer of the District of Columbia, three endorsements from the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board, the endorsement of many Members of Congress, and, most significantly, four approvals from the Commission of Fine Arts and four approvals from the National Capital Planning Commission (includ-

ing the approvals of those Commissions for the final architectural design);

Whereas on Veterans Day 1995, the President dedicated the approved site at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall as the site for the National World War II Memorial; and

Whereas fundraising for the National World War II Memorial has been enormously successful, garnering enthusiastic support from half a million individual Americans, hundreds of corporations and foundations, dozens of civic, fraternal, and professional organizations, state legislatures, students in 1,100 schools, and more than 450 veterans groups representing 11,000,000 veterans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is appropriate for the United States to memorialize in the Nation's Capitol the triumph of democracy over tyranny in World War II, the most important event of the twentieth century;

(2) the will of the American people to memorialize that triumph and all who labored to achieve it, and the decisions made on that memorialization by the appointed bodies charged by law with protecting the public's interests in the design, location, and construction of memorials on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol, should be fulfilled by the construction of the National World War II Memorial, as designed, at the approved and dedicated Rainbow Pool site on the National Mall; and

(3) it is imperative that expeditious action be taken to commence and complete the construction of the National World War II Memorial so that the completed memorial will be dedicated while Americans of the World War II generation are alive to receive the national tribute embodied in that memorial, which they earned with their sacrifice and achievement during the largest and most devastating war the world has known.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, S. Con. Res. 145 expresses the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall on the Nation's Capitol. In short, this gives the congressional approval to construct this memorial to the brave men and women who served and gave their lives during World War II at the Rainbow Pool location in the Mall and will, I hope, put this issue to rest.

Madam Speaker, there are two indisputable facts dealing with this memorial. One is the fact that no one can possibly think that memorial does not deserve to be in a place of the utmost prominence in the Mall. World War II was the most important event in this century and over 1 million Americans were either killed or wounded.

The other fact is that all approvals from various commissions have been

granted to proceed with the construction of this memorial at this site. However, it is apparent that construction is still mired down, now with misguided lawsuits by a few people who apparently do not believe that this event and the 16 million brave men and women who proudly wore the American uniform deserve recognition.

Enough is enough, Madam Speaker. The process of constructing this memorial has gone on far and long enough, and it is high time we got down to the business and build this deserved memorial which means so much to so many people. Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support S. Con. Res. 145.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, no one can argue with the substance of this concurrent resolution. The Second World War is recognized as the most significant event of the 20th Century. Millions of American men and women served with distinction and honor in that conflict and more than 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice as part of their service to their Nation. The core principles of this legislation, that it is the sense of Congress that a memorial commemorating the World War II activities should be built within area 1 on the Mall and that it should be built as expeditiously as possible, that is incontrovertible. Of course, we are all aware that there is some remaining controversy, but that controversy has moved to the courts, and Congress really has no further role in resolving that issue.

As the process moves towards what we hope will be a rapid resolution, it is appropriate that Congress re-assert its support for this important project, and as a result, the minority side fully supports the passage of this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), the champion for all veterans in our country.

Mr. STUMP. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) first introduced this resolution to create the memorial in 1987 but it was not enacted until 1993.

Since its authorization, this memorial has been through 19 public hearings. It has been completely redesigned in response to concerns raised in this public process. It has been approved by the National Park Service, the Department of Interior and the President, as well as the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board, the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts.